

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A time-phased deployment and implementation method for a new end-to-end network architecture intended to support data communications between customer aircraft and customer ground facilities. The time-phased deployment and implementation method allows graceful upgrade of services by customers, reduces technical and operational risk associated with new services, and enables cost-saving features such as network emulation and store-and-forward capability which would not otherwise be available. In one embodiment, the present invention enhances overall quality of service by allowing operation in either of two service provider networks depending on network availability.